

Mr. General Edwards, in the course of a short speech after inspecting the Shanghai Volunteers, said:—“It is nothing but a question of drill with ninety-nine men out of a hundred possessed of tolerably good eyesight, and I have no doubt that the increased employment of natives to the exclusion of British which the change would entail.”

FRAGRANT WATERS' MURMUR.
That the proposed Hongkong Athletic Club has had a most hearty reception; if we may judge by the size of the meeting and the enthusiasm displayed.

That the Club promises to be a going concern, and won't fail for want of sympathizers.

That so promising an infamy may speedily reach full grown manhood is the feeling generally felt and expressed.

That I think every one will agree that H. E. the Acting Governor did a very graceful thing when he arranged to preside at the inaugural meeting of the new Club.

That, apart from the good augury which this affair affords for the new Club, the Administration has really pleased residents generally by the active interest he has thus shown in the many sports of the community.

That Mr. W. H. Young laid the case before the meeting in a way which showed that he was considerably more than an adept in physical exercises.

That the Hon. Secretary of the Athletic Sports knows not only how to run and jump, but how to run an Athletic Club in the interests of the true sport, and at the same time of the best metropolitan associations at home.

That his statement of the objects and reasons for the Club's existence was at once high-toned and exhaustive.

That the meeting evolved an amount of eloquence the like of which was almost unknown to the community.

That one orator made only references to prehistoric Love and War, but dropped both subjects long as he reached his peroration.

That perhaps on second thoughts it occurred to this well-known athlete that Love had flourished even since prehistoric days without the aid of Clubs, and that Satan may be trusted to seeing that War don't fall into disuse.

That the other historical observations made by Mr. Leitch, who chose of a born sportsman, although they had a Nimrodian smack of the Club about them (of unhappy memory).

That this speaker was a little out about headclapping, but his ending about peck-puncturing, and consequent jealousy among winners was worthy of consideration.

That if for 'jealousy' one could only in future tread 'rivalry' Mr. Leitch's warning will have had its effect.

That the references made to Sir Richard Webster and Lord Harris were graceful and well-timed.

That the appointments of the Governor for the time being as President, and of Mr. A. MacEwen as Vice-President, were popular and calculated to materially strengthen the position of the Club.

That the amalgamation of all kinds of sports in a sort of comprehensive Gymkhana is perhaps a little premature, as distinctive sports need special grounds for their exercise.

That if carried on in truly *bona fide* public principles, and with the approval, the success of the Club is pretty certain.

That the veteran young Honorary Secretary has undertaken no light task, and deserves well of his fellows.

That no doubt the astute Q. O. was shrewd as usual in suggesting a 'man-of-war' committee, at least for a start.

That there may be wisdom in a crowd of counselors, but there is more wisdom in a single individual.

That he can resolve himself at pleasure into Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Committee, and always has a question.

That if interminable troubles arise, he can always solve them by giving the Chairman a cutting vote.

That after having perused the counterblast given by Mr. W. V. Drummond to the 'last of the Hongkong Club's Council' on the subject of the Hongkong Land Investment Ordinance, I have not very much to add to what was written here on the subject last week.

That Mr. Drummond says what he has to say as much as he can, but there is not much in his letter which the doughty Q. O. can take hold of in a fit fashion.

That the real question to be decided is, not whether Mr. Francis' letter was sent in too late, but whether his arguments are strong enough to defeat the Bill.

That Mr. Drummond seems to me to prove his opponent's case when he quotes the opinion of the Parliamentary Select Committee, to the effect—that the alteration of memoranda of association by 'private Acts should be sanctioned.

That if the advocate from the North had been in a position to say that this move had been sanctioned by an Act of Parliament, that would have been a different mark, though perhaps not a bull's eye even then.

That the evidence in cases of collusion at sea has never been clear, with after the manner of breach of promise suits, on the lines of *Barrell v. Fitch*, and I greatly wonder that this service has not been performed.

That in similar cases decisions on the case of the *Kororua* were *decided*, and the counter-claim, have imperilled the friendships of years, and the hard parting, hard boarding, hard swearing, and the traditional conflict of evidence, have produced much hard language all round.

That the decision of 'both to blame' is perhaps becoming more frequent, not so formerly, because of its similarity to that harbour of refuge for Scotch juries, 'not proven.'

That the contradictory opinions, based upon the before-mentioned contradictory evidence, which I have heard, lead me to think that the Judge in Admiralty is not far wrong.

That the Administrator's remarks on education as carried on in Hongkong were most fair and honest, and his tribute to

Mr. Bellios for his liberality was well deserved.
That upon a subject which was fought out here with great spirit for many years, it is satisfactory to find this verdict given.

That the system of education as carried on here, within recent times at all events, has worked tolerably well, and to the satisfaction of all, whatever religion they may be attached.

That when the Marquis T'ang astonished the Western world with his views on the Sleep and Awakening of China, great hopes were entertained that this enlightened statesman would really help on the awakening of which he wrote.

That those who with a real heart desire the true progress of China, and with keen regret that the enlightened T'ang had fallen into that sleep from which there is no waking.

That the well-wishers of the Empire trust the quiet yet effective influence of this great man will be continued by some one equally enlightened and discreet, and that the cause of progress will not be permanently injured.

That Mr. Chadwick may be congratulated on the reception of his water-meter and his water-meter.

That, as I have already said, there are things in the scheme which need discussion and perhaps amendment.

That the two principal causes of waste were the house-taps left open over night to catch the intermittent supply, and the careless usage by coolies of the public hydrants.

That the continuous supply will stop the first cause, and keys and regulations for public wells ought to put an end to the second.

That I do not quite follow Mr. Ede in his proposal for the abolition or reduction of the charge for water, unless he proposes some other source of revenue.

That if we presume the Sanitary Board ultimately takes over the water supply, as a vital branch of the sanitation of the Colony, the revenue from the water rate and charges for extra supply would form a nice tidy sum for sanitary work.

That if the scheme effects nothing more than the equalization of burdens, and the exemption from the payment of the water rate to water-meters, much good will be done.

That when reading the part of Mr. Humphreys' most sensible speech referring to manufacturers, I felt irresistibly inclined to insert 'soda' every time he spoke of 'water.'

That this is perhaps owing to the circumstance that most of the water consumed in my house is bottled, wired, and capped.

That all the same Mr. Humphreys is quite correct about industries and manufacturers, and that the revenue in the cases of larceny and receiving were curious puzzles in criminal procedure.

That the juries appeared to think that the man who stole what 'wasn't his,' was quite fit to receive (from his own hands) the punishment of death.

That it is to be hoped those good men and true, in their anxiety to convict the prisoner, have not so upset law and common sense as to quash the verdict.

BROWNIE.

THE STABBING CASE ON BOARD THE BENGOE.

Eriz de Veore, one of the crew of the s.s. *Bengoe*, who was charged with stabbing another seaman on board the steamer on the night of the 15th inst., was brought before Mr. W. de Veore, on remand, in the Police Court to-day.

Dr. Lowson, assistant superintendent of the Government Civil Hospital, said:—The complainant was admitted to hospital about 2 a.m. on the 14th inst. He was suffering from the effects of alcohol, and from several cuts on the left shoulder. There were eight stab wounds on the shoulder and one on the forearm. There were none of the cuts serious, but two or three in front of the shoulder might have been so. He is now convalescent. The wounds might have been inflicted with a knife such as that produced. One of them was about an inch and a half in depth.

August Gustavus, the complainant, said:—On the 13th April, in the evening, the prisoner attacked me with a knife. He was very little about it. He was on the top of me and I ran away. He was hitting me several times with his knife. The second mate took him away. I can't remember whether we had a row or not.

Captain Farquhar of the *Bengoe* said: The prisoner had been on the steamer four months, and was a quiet man, with whom he had never had any fault to find. The complainant joined the ship at the same time as the defendant. The prisoner appeared to be sober on the night of the row.

His Worship sentenced the prisoner to six months' imprisonment with hard labour.

A number of English gentlemen are in competition for the entertainment of Stanley when he arrives in London.

An assizes railway company has set apart a special fund from which to reward acts of bravery on the part of its employees.

The London society journals are kind. They are giving hints to American girls as to how to capture dukes, earls and the lesser nobility.

The London *Standard* in its comments on the World's Fair site Chicago is to the point, but whether his arguments are strong enough to defeat the Bill.

Colonial Minister (Mr. Sunday-school class)—What was the forbidden fruit, that Adam and Eve partook of in the Garden of Eden? Little George Fletcher—Water-melons.—*Times*.

Says a Paris correspondent: 'Paralytic, if I am not much mistaken, is a disease which attacks men years ago which left him with a dead leg.'

The question 'Is there coal under London?' has been discussed. *Geologists* say that the lay of the strata there justifies the belief that coal can be found at a practicable depth.

In the Belgian Senate yesterday Van Peel urged the Government to instruct the representatives at the Berlin Labor Conference to hold 'another European conference, looking to a general disarmament.'

Troops of the Sultan of Morocco are reported to have been very successful in several engagements with the rebels. According to the accounts the chiefs of the rebels were captured and beheaded, and their heads have been forwarded as trophies to the Sultan.

Russian authorities have treated as a revolt a strike among workmen, and the strike has been terrible. Fifty of the ringleaders of a mob that destroyed a mill, where they had been at work, were taken to the salt mines of Cracow, where cruel treatment caused them to commit suicide.

NEWS BY THE AMERICAN MAIL.

THE RESIGNATION OF KRIMOR REMARKS.
Berlin, March 21.—The complete text of the Emperor's letter to Prince Bismarck accepting his resignation is as follows:

'My dear Prince: His with deep emotion I learn from your request of March 18th that you are determined to retire from the office filled by you for so many years with such incomparable results. I had hoped that your resignation would be a rare event, and I should not have to face the event of your separation. If I am now, while thoroughly conscious of the far-reaching importance of your retirement, compelled to face this eventuality, I do so with a heavy heart, but with the conviction that your resignation will contribute to the preservation and conservation of your life and strength, which are both of priceless value to our Fatherland.'

The reasons you give me for your decision prove to me that further attempts to withdraw your request are useless. I therefore grant, in all kindness, your wishes, and accordingly relieve you of your office as Chancellor, President of the Ministry, and Minister of Foreign Affairs, with a firm conviction that your resignation will, in the future, be a source of pride and honor to the Fatherland. I have always considered it one of the most fortunate circumstances of my life that I began to know you, and I am now convinced that you have accomplished and achieved for Prussia and Germany, what you have been to my house to my predecessors, and will be cherished as a precious memory by me and by the German people forever.'

This letter was read by the Emperor in a most touching and full of feeling manner. It is believed from the fullest conviction to maintain for the future as the guiding star of my policy, will be remembered with glorious appreciation.

To requite your service at its value is beyond my power. I must content myself with assuring you of the everlasting gratitude of the Fatherland and myself. As an evidence of this sentiment I create you Duke of Leuchtenberg, and shall present you furthermore with a life-size portrait of me, which I shall place in my study, and grant you long and untroubled existence cheered by the consciousness of your noble deeds. With this conviction I shall remain for the future also your faithful, devoted and grateful Emperor, William.

This is dated Berlin, March 21, 1890. Thus, not we Emperor, but as King of Prussia, William adds to the letter a postscript raising the Chancellor, who is a cavalry General in the Prussian service to the rank of Colonel-General, about equivalent to that of Field Marshal, with the exception that the latter is conferred on those whose distinguished service has never comprised that of commanding an independent corps before the enemy. Old Kaiser William, with characteristic modesty, always signed himself 'Colonel-General.'

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its usual harvest of crimes. Maria Laviola, a landlady, went to the carnival ball and did not return until 4 o'clock in the morning. Her husband attacked her with a revolver, firing three shots, one of which took effect in the breast of an innocent woman named Piccini.

A Government employee, after indulging in a *dejeuner* dinner, gave his mistress, Marie Babut, a beverage containing arsenic. He then fired twice at the woman, went into the kitchen and swallowed poison himself, and blew off the top of his head with the remaining shot in his revolver.

A third tragedy was that in which Mr. Mayer and his wife were actors. As the couple were returning from a ball, Mrs. Mayer resented her husband and poured hot brandy over him. The poor man, all over fire, rushed upstairs to the apartment of the Police Inspector. The wife followed him, revolver in hand, and succeeded in lodging six bullets in his back. Returning to her room, she fired five bullets into her own breast.

AN INTERESTING DISCOVERY.
London, March 16.—One of the most interesting of modern archaeological discoveries is reported from Canterbury, where, on opening an ancient tomb in the south wall of the cathedral, the remains of Cardinal Langton, who bore a large part in the struggle for the Magna Charta, and died in 1228, were found undisturbed in a stone coffin. Not only were the features distinguishable, but a very beautiful and unique collection of episcopal vestments, with the ring, staff, mitre, chalice and paten, was found, which had been buried among the treasures of the cathedral library.

RUSSIAN DUTIES TO BE INCREASED.
St. Petersburg, March 16.—It is announced that all Russian import duties will be raised three months hence.

SERIOUS CHARGES AGAINST THE FRENCH ARMY SUSTAINED.
Paris, March 17.—The Seine jury has acquitted Decazes, the author of a book in which the army was violently attacked for immorality, peacelike, debaucheries and injurious acts of discipline. M. de Freycinet, Minister of War, instigated an action against the writer as public prosecutor, and made a powerful speech against the book. The acquittal of the author is held to show that the charges which he made against the army are all true. The Minister of War's action has risen from 3500 to 30,000 copies.

LOOKING AFTER THE ARMY.
Berlin, March 17.—The attention of the Emperor has been called to the report that private soldiers in the army had been cruelly treated by officers, and he at once ordered an investigation. As a consequence several officers have been convicted and punished. Lieutenant Hochmuth has been sentenced to imprisonment at Breslau for four months for cruelty.

THE GLADIATOR.
London, March 17.—The parishioners of Haverhill of both political parties have decided to erect a memorial of Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone's golden wedding at a handsome fountain opposite to the entrance to the castle grounds. It will be triangular in shape, richly carved and have on the panels modeled the life of Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone and the arms of the Gladstone and Glynne families.

A RIVAL EDISON.
London, March 10.—A Milanese named Fosatti is exhibiting a simplified Edison photograph, costing 100 francs. The instrument reproduces the human voice and music in a marvellous manner.

